

Evidentiary Document # 5130.

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATION

OF

[No. 2586617 Sgt. G.V.P. PICOZZI, Royal Corps of Signals having been duly sworn states:-

I am 30 years of age, of British Nationality, born at London. My permanent home is (NIL). I am at present living at Pearl's Hill Prison, Singapore where I am acting as a warder.

[The following is an account of my experiences in the Military Gaol in Pearl's Hill Prison, Singapore, where I was incarcerated from August 1943 until August '44.

I was locked up in cell 19 D Block. There were 13 other soldiers there when I arrived and when I saw them I realised that this was indeed hell on earth. They were covered in septic scabies, were suffering from beri-beri and in many cases dysentery. Everyone was hopelessly undernourished and terribly thin, the average weight being about 7 stone. The food was totally inadequate - three meals a day consisting in all of some 8 ozs. of rice with a little soup and an occasional fish head. For five months we all but starved to death and I personally went down from 12 stone to 6 stone 2 lbs. by which time I was very sick with scabies and beri-beri. On asking or rather begging for medicine I was told to hurry up and die as there was no treatment for such as I. In seven months I had been in solitary confinement as I was still an untried prisoner and my state of mind was such that I just wanted to die.

[Everyone lived in constant fear of the guards as severe beatings were the punishment for the slightest offence. The following are some of the worst atrocities which I witnessed:-

1. In March or April 1944 there was in prison with me an old Greek priest from Malacca. He was suffering from severe scabies and one night when he was moaning in his cell the guard went in and kicked and beat him. He died the same night. The guard who murdered him is himself now a prisoner in the gaol and I have identified him as YAMNISHI.

2. Chinese and Eurasians ^{to walk} have been carried out on stretchers to be beheaded, too sick ~~to walk~~ or even crawl. Young Chinese, too young to die, have left for execution/shouting for victory for the Allies and showing us the way to die for King and Country.

3. The most pathetic sight was seven Eurasians, some of them my friends in peacetime, whose only crime was that they had taken news into Changi Camp which was common practice in Singapore. For this they were condemned to death after promises from the Japs that they would be excused if they became good citizens. They were beheaded on 26 Nov. '43.

4. When Hatfield was condemned to die he was kept in an empty cell for six days prior to his execution. He was in a very bad state and was handcuffed and without bedding. He had a horror of beheading and the guards never lost an opportunity of tormenting him with reminders of what was to come. His mental anguish must have been almost unbearable. From a 16 stone man he had become a 7 stone wreck and was executed on 6 Dec. '43.
5. An Indian soldier was kicked in the back by a guard and completely crippled. He could not walk and eventually died. The guard who murdered him is himself now a prisoner in the gaol and I have identified him as NIHAR. HIDEO.
6. A Chinese man was driven mad by constant beatings and eventually killed himself by bashing his head against the wall of his cell. The guard who was responsible for this man's death is himself now a prisoner in the gaol and I have identified him as KAMITA.
7. An English POW named Brown of the Loyal Regiment was driven mad by constant beating and general illtreatment. The guard responsible for this is himself now a prisoner in the gaol and I have identified him as MENO. He was also in charge of the issue of rations and made sure that the British and Australian POW were almost starved to death.
8. Two Australians died of starvation and general illtreatment in July 1943. The man who is partially responsible for their death is MORIMOTO who is now a prisoner in the gaol.
9. I have personally been illtreated by the following guards who are now prisoners in the gaol and who I have identified:-
 - (a) HIEDA - Knocked me unconscious three times with his sword butt and made me crawl one mile on my hands and knees when I was sick with dysentery and malaria and could not walk. He did this just for the pleasure of seeing my sores cut and bleeding.
 - (b) MURATA - When I was unable to walk and was crawling along he kicked me in the face because I was not going fast enough. It has left a scar on my forehead.
 - (c) SATO - Took particular delight in torturing me by making me crawl about and beating me when I was too sick to move.
10. The following guards also delighted in illtreating prisoners. They are all in gaol and have been identified by me:-
 - (a) TSUKUDA, Keiji - reduced already meagre rations and kicked sick prisoners.
 - (b) KOGA - general illtreatment.

- After Dec. '43 things began to get a lot better. The food increased and everyone who could work was allowed to do so. Of course if you were sick you were still starved, the Jap method being no work, no food. After about six weeks things began to drop off again and beatings once more became the order of the day. It was futile to complain for there was nobody to complain to. Eventually I was sent to Changi POW Hospital when the guards thought I was past saving. This was one of their most famous jokes. They would keep soldiers in their cells with no medical treatment and just before they died send them to Changi. In this way the responsibility for the deaths did not lie with the prison authorities.

(Signed) G.V. PICOZZI, Sgt.

by C in C, Allied Land Forces SEA.

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五箇月ノ間ニ幾々全員ハ特ニ亡死セシメカリトナ
リマシタ。私自身モ十二ストーン約廿貫百六十匁
カラ六ストーン二ポンド約十貫三百二十匁ニ減リ
其時迄ニ既ニ赤痢ト脚氣デ大層苦シンデ居リマシ
タ。藥ヲ呉レト頼ムヨリ寧ロ瞑目シタラ。私ノヤ
ウナ者ニハ治療ラシテイカラ速ク死ホト云ハレマ
シタ。

僅ク輕イ科ニ對シテモ罰トシテ嚴シク打擲セラレ
ルノデ一同ハ屈エズ衛兵ヲ恐レテ暮シマシタ。以
下ハ私ガ目撃シタ最も非道イ凶虐行爲ノ數例デゴ
ザイマス。

一 一九四四年三月デアツタカ、四月デアツタカ一
マラツカ「カラ來々年取ツタ希圖人收買ガ一人
私ト一體ニ刑務所ニ居リマシタ。彼ハ烈シイ赤
痢ニ罹ツテ居テ或ル夜其ノ部屋デ呻ツテ居リマ
スト衛兵ガ入ツテ來テ彼ヲ足蹴ニシ打擲シマシ
タ。彼ハ其夜死亡致シマシタ。

~~（重傷）~~ 原丈ニ誤リナキ（長譯者上）

ニ 重傷デ歩行スルコトモ憐フコトサヘモ出來テ
イ支那人及歐亞混血人若干ガ擔架デ運ビ出サレ
斬首サレマシタ。死スニハ早イ弱年ノ支那人ガ

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死刑ヲ執行サレニ出テ行キマシタ。

三 景モ心ヲ打タレタ情景ハ七人ノ凶悪混血人デア
リマシタ。一其ノ内ノ一人カハ平和時代ノ私ノ
友人デアツタノダカ「彼等ノ罪ト云フノハ唯ダ
新嘉坡デヨクアルコトデ「チェインギ」陣地/Chan-
gi camp」ノ情報ヲ入レタダケノコトデアリマ
シタ。之ニ對シ善良ナル市民ニテレバ想ルスト
ノ日本人ノ約束ニモ拘ラズ彼等ハ死刑ヲ宣告サ
レマシタ。彼等ハ一九四三年十一月二十六日ニ
斬首サレマシタ。

「二 頁」

四 ハットフィールド / Hatfield / カ死刑ヲ
宣告サレタトキ彼ハ其ノ執行前ノ六日間入ノ居
ナイ房ニ入レラレマシタ。彼ノ容態ハ非常ニ悪
イノニ彼ハ手錠ヲ恨メラレ器具モ売テガハレマ
センデシタ。彼ハ斬首ヲ恐レテ居リマシタ。ソ
レダノニ衛兵達ハ機會アル毎ニ必ズ其ノコトラ
言ツタリ慰付カレタリシテ彼ヲ苦シメマシタ。
彼ハ殆ンド精神的苦痛ニ堪エラレナカツタコト
デアラウ。十六ストーン約二十六貫八百八十匁
ノ人間カ七ストーン（十一貫七百六十匁）ノミ

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ジメテ身体トナツテ彼ハ一九四三年十二月六日
ニ處刑サレマシタ。

ニ 一人ノ印度人兵士ハ衛兵ニ背部ヲ蹴ラレテ全ク
ノ不具ニナリマシタ。彼ハ歩行モ出来ナクナリ
口ヲ死亡致シマシタ。

ニ 一文部人ハ範エズ打倒セラレテ氣が逆と結局首
分ノ房ノ壁ニ頭ヲ打付クテ自殺致シマシタ。

ニ 美國聯隊ノブラウン / Brown / ト云フ英國人
俘虜ハ範エザル打倒ト例ノ虐待ノタメ氣が逆ツ
テ了ヒマシタ。

ニ 二人ノ澳洲人ハ飢餓ト例ノ虐待ノタメニ一九四
三年七月ニ死亡致シマシタ。